COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STATE, FOREIGN OPERATIONS, AND RELATED PROGRAMS, RANKING MEMBER



Nita M. Lowey Congress of the United States

17th District, New York

August 30, 2018

Mr. Ronald A. Stroman Deputy Postmaster General 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Washington, DC 20260-0050

Dear Mr. Stroman,

Since my letter of August 15, I have been made aware by union officials that mail carriers in the Westchester Postal District were told to come in up to 90 minutes later beginning Saturday, August 25, because of problems at the Westchester Processing and Distribution Center. This will of course make mail delivery even later than it already is.

Further, I have learned there have been more mail thefts in West Nyack, White Plains, Tallman, Ossining, and Tarrytown. I have also been told that mail containing checks has been stolen from collection boxes inside the post offices themselves. I have been in touch with the Westchester County District Attorney about these unacceptable occurrences.

It has been suggested to me that the distribution problems relate to staffing issues because, although the Postal Service is recruiting carriers, it is losing as many as 50 percent of new hires because of working conditions. These include 12-hour days, 16 to 19 days without days off, and a shifting of routes that require carriers to cover areas far from their homes, often with little notice.

I would like to know more about the scheduling changes and problems at the Distribution Center. In addition, please tell me how many thefts have been reported in the past two months, and whether customers have been informed by the USPS so that they can monitor their bank accounts and take additional steps to verify that mail has been received.

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67 NORTH MAIN STREET SUITE 101 NEW CITY, NY 10956 (845) 639–3485 FAX: (845) 634–4079 Thank you for your attention to these important matters. I look forward to your response to my letters in the next few days.

Sincerely,

Nita M. Lowey

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Member of Congress

cc: Megan Brennan United States Postmaster General 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260

Guy Cottrell Chief Postal Inspector 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260

Dave Williams Chief Operating Officer 475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW Washington, DC 20260